

Appl. No.: 09/990,770  
Amdt. dated July 20, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2005

### **I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An automated database management method for a database comprising one or more database objects, the method comprising:  
associating one or more policies or definitions with the database for managing database objects;  
determining actions to be performed on one or more database objects to modify the one or more database objects based on the one or more policies or definitions, wherein a database comprises the one or more database objects;  
modifying the one or more database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;  
monitoring results of ~~the performing the actions on~~ modifying the database objects; and  
reconfiguring the one or more policies or definitions associated with the database based on the monitoring the results of the performing the actions on modifying the database objects.
2. (Original) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:  
automatically determining a schedule for performing the actions on the database objects, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects comprises performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.
3. (Original) The database management method of claim 2, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule comprises automatically performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

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4. (Original) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:  
confirming the performing the actions on the database objects.
5. (Currently Amended) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:  
collecting statistics relating to operation of [[a]] the database; and  
determining characteristics of the database objects.
6. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the characteristics of the database objects.
7. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects comprises determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
8. (Original) The database management method of claim 7, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
9. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.
10. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.

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11. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the collected statistics.
12. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more policies.
13. (Original) The database management method of claim 5, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more definitions.
14. (Original) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising:  
customizing the one or more definitions.
15. (Original) The database management method of claim 1, further comprising: customizing the one or more policies.
16. (Currently Amended) A carrier medium comprising program instructions for a database comprising one or more database objects, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:  
associating one or more policies or definitions with the database for managing database objects;  
determining actions to be performed on one or more database objects to modify the one or more database objects based on the one or more policies or definitions, wherein a database comprises the one or more database objects;  
modifying the one or more database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;  
monitoring results of ~~the performing the actions on~~ modifying the database objects; and

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reconfiguring the one or more policies or definitions associated with the database based on ~~the monitoring~~ the results of ~~the performing the actions on~~ modifying the database objects.

17. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

automatically determining a schedule for performing the actions on the database objects, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects comprises performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

18. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 17, wherein the performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule comprises automatically performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

19. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

confirming the performing the actions on the database objects.

20. (Currently Amended) The carrier medium of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

collecting statistics relating to operation of ~~[[a]]~~ the database; and  
determining characteristics of the database objects.

21. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the characteristics of the database objects.

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22. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects comprises determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
23. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 22, wherein the determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects comprises automatically determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.
24. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.
25. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.
26. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the collected statistics.
27. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more policies.
28. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 20, wherein the determining the characteristics of the database objects comprises determining the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more definitions.
29. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

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customizing the one or more definitions.

30. (Original) The carrier medium of claim 16, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement: customizing the one or more policies.

31. (Currently Amended) A database management system comprising:

a CPU;

a database coupled to the CPU, wherein the database comprises one or more database objects; and

a memory coupled to the CPU, wherein the memory stores program instructions which are executable by the CPU to:

associate one or more policies or definitions with the database for managing database objects;

determine actions to be performed on the database objects to modify the database objects based on the one or more policies or definitions;

modify the database objects by performing the actions on the database objects;

monitor results of the performing the actions on modifying the database objects;  
and

reconfigure the one or more policies or definitions associated with the database based on the monitoring the results of the performing the actions on modifying the database objects.

32. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:

automatically determine a schedule for performing the actions on the database objects,  
wherein in performing the actions on the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to perform the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

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33. (Original) The database management system of claim 32, wherein in performing the actions on the database objects based on the schedule, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically perform the actions on the database objects based on the schedule.

34. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:  
confirm the performing the actions on the database objects.

35. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:  
collect statistics relating to operation of ~~[[a]] the~~ database; and  
determine characteristics of the database objects.

36. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically determine the characteristics of the database objects.

37. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein in determining the actions to be performed on the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.

38. (Original) The database management system of claim 37, wherein in determining the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to automatically determine the actions to be performed on the database objects based on the characteristics of the database objects.

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39. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein the statistics comprise object-level statistics.
40. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein the statistics comprise activity-level statistics.
41. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the characteristics of the database objects using the collected statistics.
42. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more policies.
43. (Original) The database management system of claim 35, wherein in determining the characteristics of the database objects, the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to determine the characteristics of the database objects using the one or more definitions.
44. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to:  
    customize the one or more definitions.
45. (Original) The database management system of claim 31, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the CPU to: customize the one or more policies.